THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No industrial enterprise has yet been set up in these areas. However, it may be stated that CPWD has decided to set up a ready mix concrete plants based on NCBM technology at Delhi and is taking further steps in this regard. A number of enterpreneurs are also in contact with National Council for Cement and Building Materials (NCBM) for the transfer of technology on NCB-Fly Ash Bricks.

(c) NCBM has received Rs. 70,000 for preparation of feasibility reports on ready mix concrete. No royalty has been earned as yet.

De-reservation for the manufacture of bicycle components by Small Scale Industries

1431. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for de-reserving the manufacture of bicycle components by Small Scale Industries;

(b) whether Government have assessed the impact of this decision on the Small Scale Sector in Punjab; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to protect this Sector from such losses and also to safeguard the interests of labour that may be laid off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The de-reservation and change in nomenclature of some of the bicycle components from the list of items reserved for Small Scale Sector has been effected mainly to facilitate the absorption of modern technology, improvement of quality nad expansion of export.

(b) and (c) Majority of the bicycle components continue to be reserved for exclusive manufacture in the Small Scale Sector and changes in respect of only a few of the selected components is not likely to cause any significant impact on the Small Scale Sector in Punjab.

Central assistance for renovation and modernisation of Thermal Power Station in A.P.

1432. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which Andhra Pradesh Government have sought Central assistance for renovation and modernisation of the thermal power stations so far during the last five years; and

(b) what is the Central Government's response to their request, project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) In 1984 the Andhra Pradesh authorities sought Central assistance for the renovation and modernisation of the Kothagudam thermal power station. In 1987, another proposal for the renovation and modernisation of the Nellore thermal power station was received. The Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board also requested for the transfer of one activity, namely, the renovation of the coal handling plant of the Ramagundam thermal power station, from State Plan to Central Loan Assistance.

(b) The Government of India have sanctioned Rs. 32.41 crores under the Central Loan Assistance for the renovation and modernisation of the Kothagudam thermal power station. The proposals in respect of the Nellore thermal power station and the coal handling plant of the Ramagundam thermal power station could not be agreed to owing to the limited availability of fund under the Central Loan Assistance.